

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 69

By Powers

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Reverend Ronnie Arnold of LaFollette.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Reverend Ronnie Arnold of LaFollette, a beloved patriarch, inspiring pastor, humble servant of God, and faithful friend; and

WHEREAS, prior to his retirement in October 2020, Reverend Arnold served for thirty-one years as the pastor of Cedar Hill Baptist Church, where he fostered love and fellowship among the members of his flock; and

WHEREAS, among his most beloved ministries was Boy Scout Troop 310, for which Cedar Hill served as the charter organization; and

WHEREAS, before he answered God's call, Reverend Arnold pursued an engineering career with a degree from the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, after contemplating the Lord's mission for him for two years, Reverend Arnold relocated with his wife, Kathy, and their two young children from Knoxville to Memphis, where he enrolled in Mid-American Theological Seminary; and

WHEREAS, while attending seminary, he became involved in the Arkansas Baptist Association Church Apprenticeship Program, through which he planted a church, Gilmore Baptist Chapel, in Gilmore, Arkansas, and served as its pastor for five years; and

WHEREAS, when Reverend Arnold graduated from seminary with his Master of Divinity degree in 1989, the Lord called him to Cedar Hill Baptist Church in LaFollette, where he was the devoted pastor until his retirement; and

WHEREAS, he bravely battled multiple health issues for fifteen years before transitioning to his new home in heaven; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Arnold is survived by his high-school sweetheart and wife of forty-six years, Kathy Arnold; daughters, Amanda Kathleen Campbell and husband, Jeff, Dr. Katie Lane Arnold, and Allison Faye Morris and husband, Joe; son, Troy Burton Arnold and wife, Jamie; grandchildren, Clark Lawson, Emma Kate Lawson, Madi Jane Morris, Laney Ann Arnold, and Harrison Troy Arnold; sister, Dana Faye Bell and husband, Larry; brother, Terry Arnold and wife, Donna; devoted extended family member, Jane Rasnake; several nieces and nephews; and his loving Cedar Hill Baptist Church family; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents, Dana B. and Faye Heatherly Arnold, and fellow brother in Christ, Marshall Rasnake; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Ronnie Arnold served his faith and his community with distinction for more than thirty years, and he should be remembered for his many contributions and the example he set for others; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Reverend Ronnie Arnold of LaFollette, reflecting fondly upon his resolute service to God and humanity, and extend our sympathy and condolences to his family and many friends.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.